APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/658,677	09/08/2000	Paul O. Sheppard	97-16D1	3635

7590   04/16/2003

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EXAMINER
NOLAN, PATRICK J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1644	13

DATE MAILED: 04/16/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DEA/FCE-1994

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09/658,677				

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1644	

DATE MAILED:

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application

Commissioner of Patents

1.   All claims are allowable.   However, due to a potential interference, *ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter.   Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

2.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patrick Nolan whose telephone number is (703) 305-1987. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm.

3.   If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan, can be reached at (703) 305-3973. The FAX number for our group, 1644, is (703) 305-7939. Any inquiry of a general nature relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Patrick J. Nolan, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner, Group 1640
April 10, 2003